OPENING SHOT

SKETCHBOOK

CIVIL WAR

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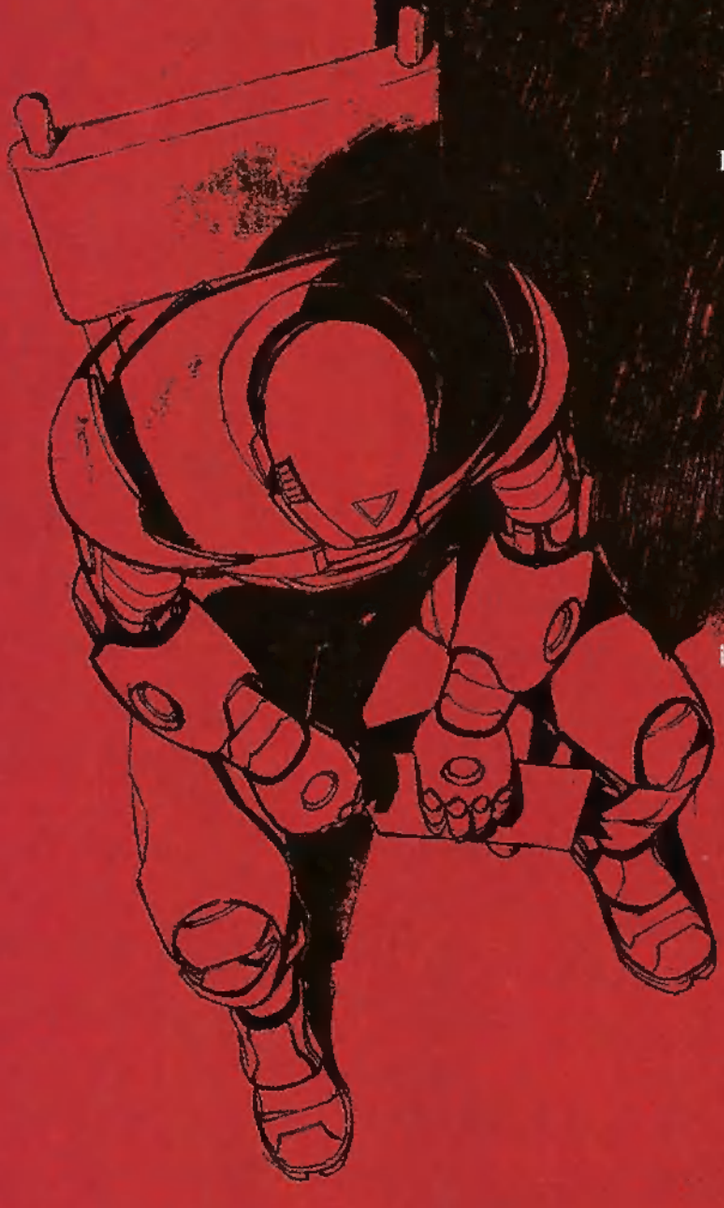

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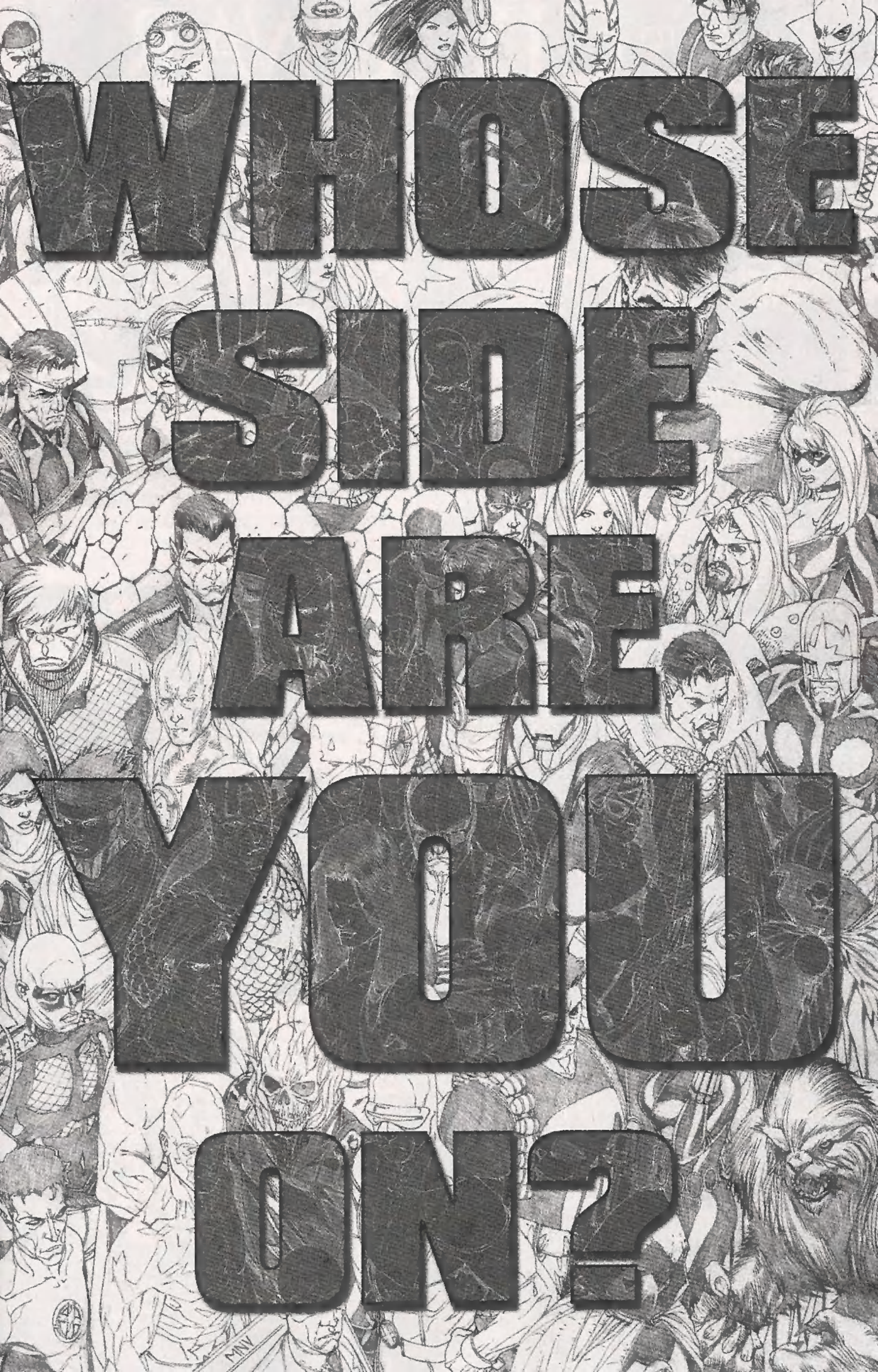

WHOSE
SIDE
ARE
YOU
ON?

THE ROAD TO CIVIL WAR

It began with the Avengers. Torn apart from within, Earth's mightiest heroes lost faith in their mission and disbanded. A dark rift was formed and it was only a matter of time before that gap widened and others fell in as well. Though it seems impossible to believe, the Avengers were merely the first team to be disassembled.

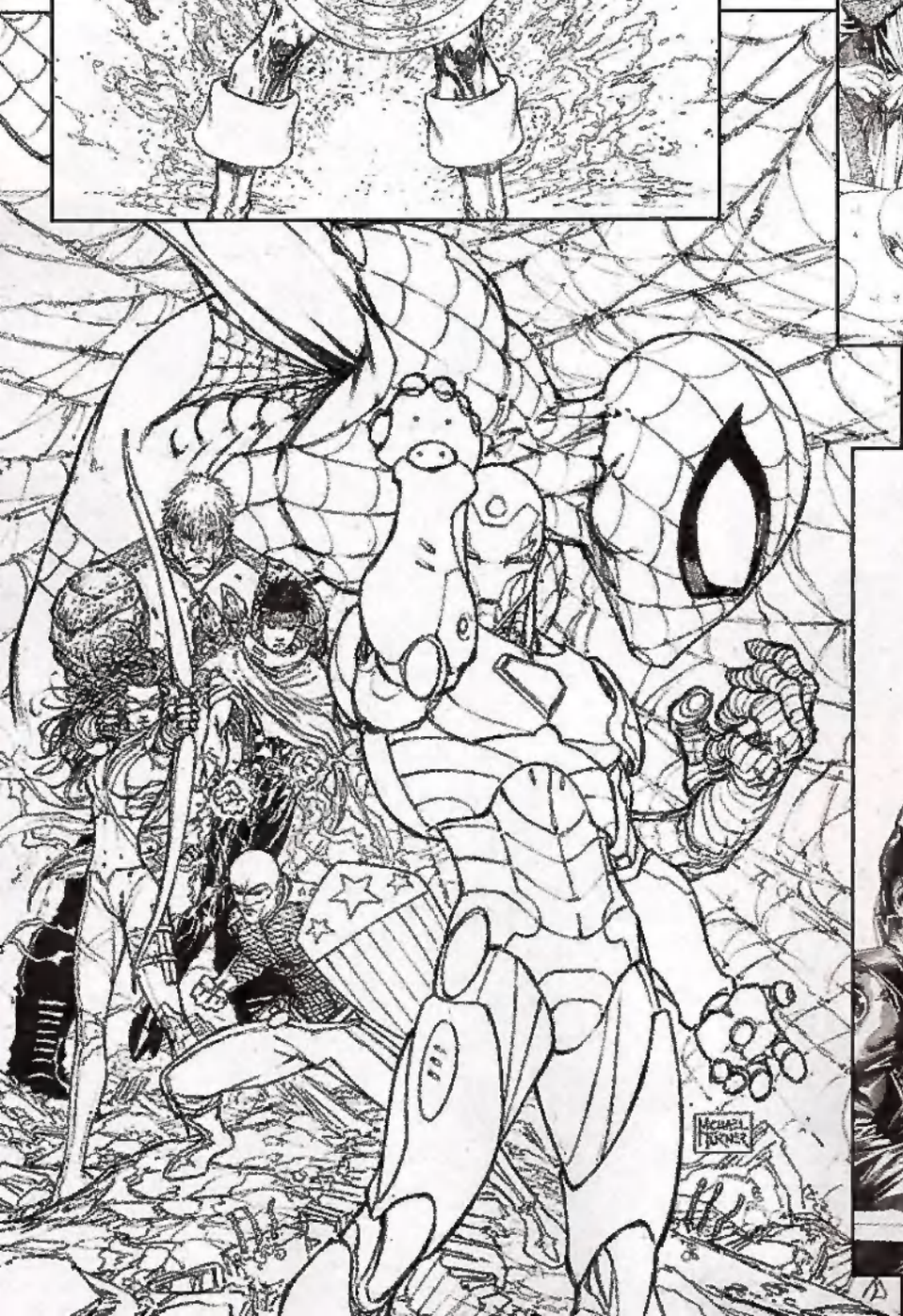
In the wake of these events, a disagreement arose over how best to deal with those responsible. A series of strange events in Genosha changed the world, changed reality itself, overnight. Suddenly the great mutant population had been reduced to a mere fraction of its former size. The secret behind this vast depowering is known only to a few.

Then the Hulk seemed to vanish. Once, his path of destruction could be tracked from miles above the Earth. Then... nothing. No one has seen him for months. Some say he has been tamed, others say he died. The truth of it is far more frightening, and has much greater consequences.

Since the early dawn of the Marvels, there has been a secret gathering, a collection of the brightest, most powerful leaders of their community. They have not always seen eye-to-eye. A recent decision has torn them apart. Where they once stood united, they now face one another, mistrust brewing.

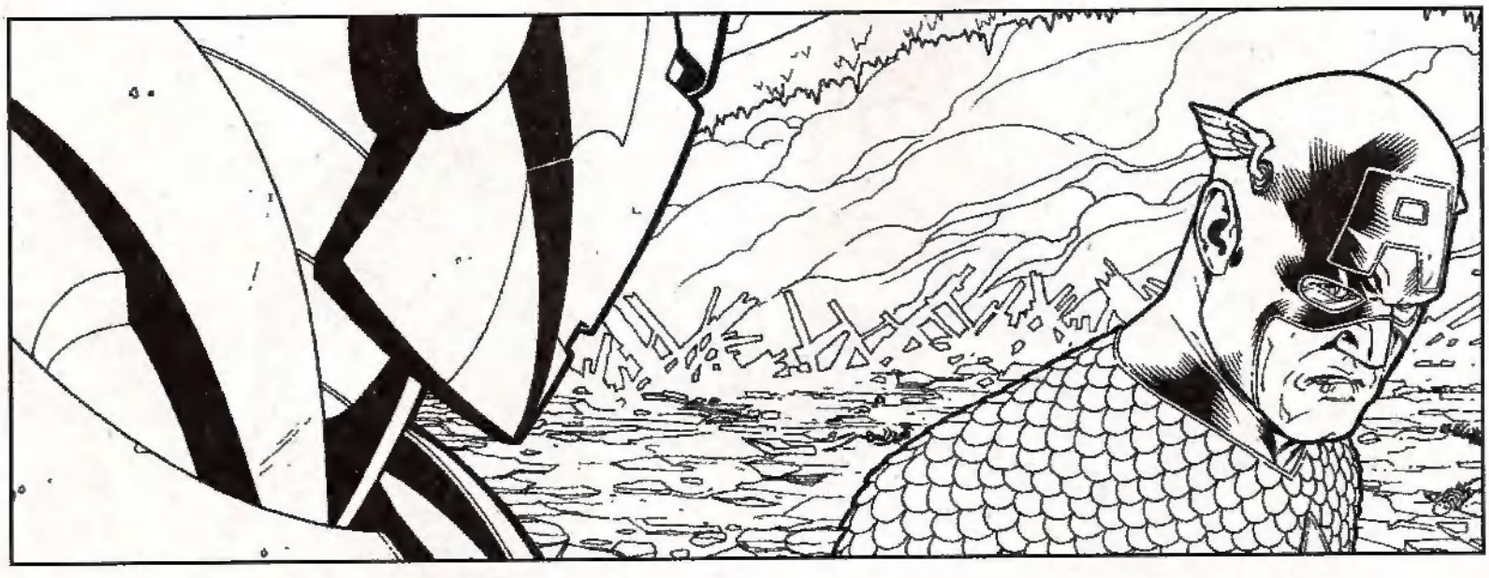
Disassembled, decimated, and divided. The world is growing darker. Secret committees are meeting, deals are being made, and sides are forming. Things that were once thought lost have resurfaced. Old wounds are reopening. Forgotten threats are returning. Civil War, it seems, is inevitable. The world is holding its breath. Who will fire...

THE OPENING SHOT

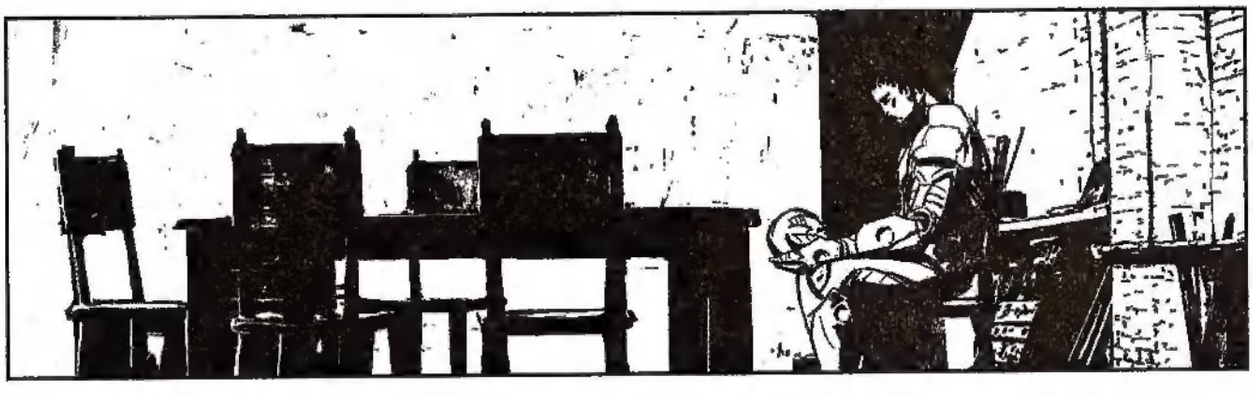


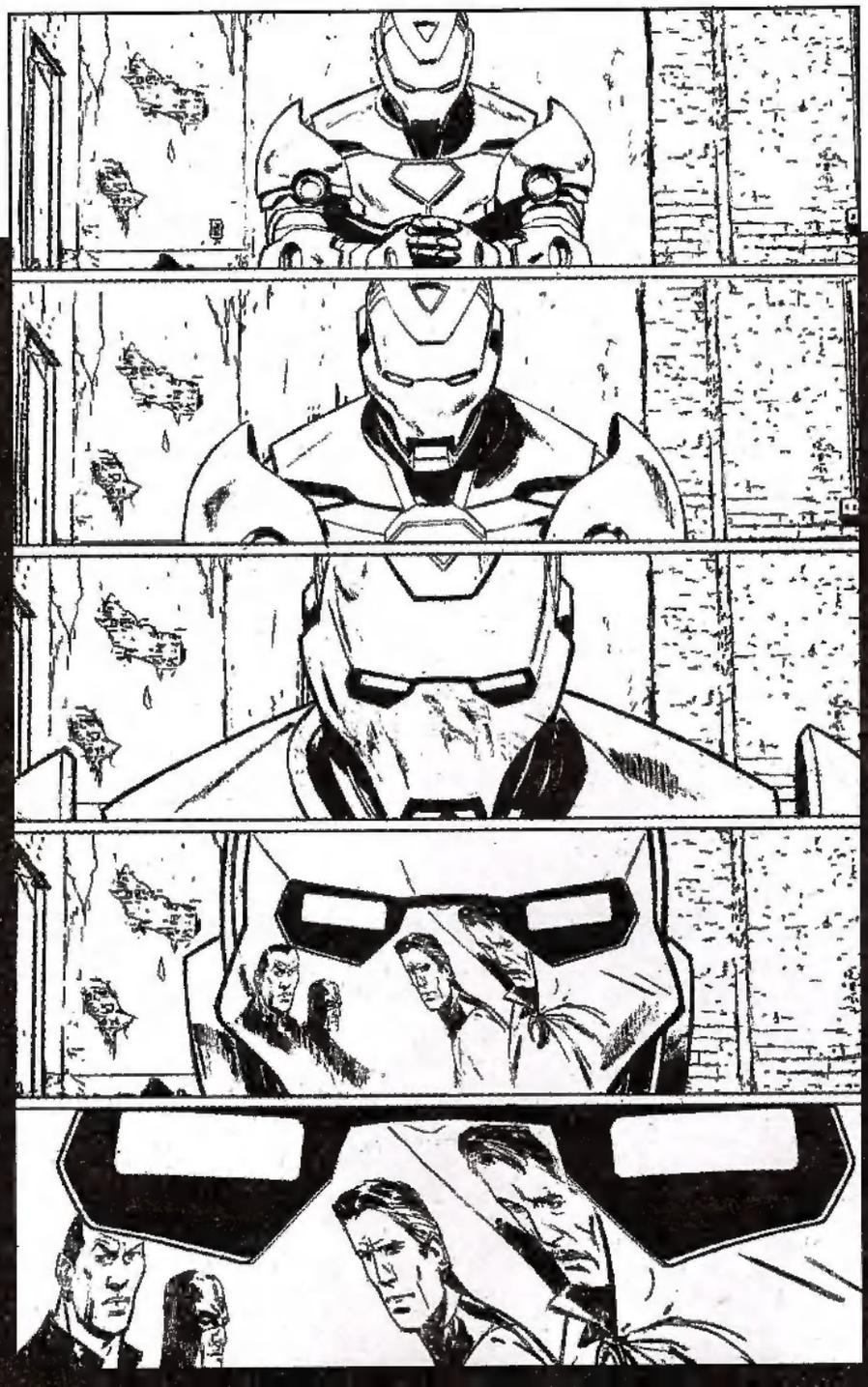
It's easy to forget that these flying, swinging, powerful protectors aren't always perfect. They can fail. All it takes is one mistake. One failure, and a catastrophe occurs that the world will remember for all time.

SCHOOL BUS



These heroes have lived among us for years in an age of wonder, an age of safety, and an age of innocence. When that innocence is lost in the wake of the tragedy, someone must be there to pick up the pieces. Someone must tell us what went wrong. Someone must be held accountable. As one age ends, another must begin...





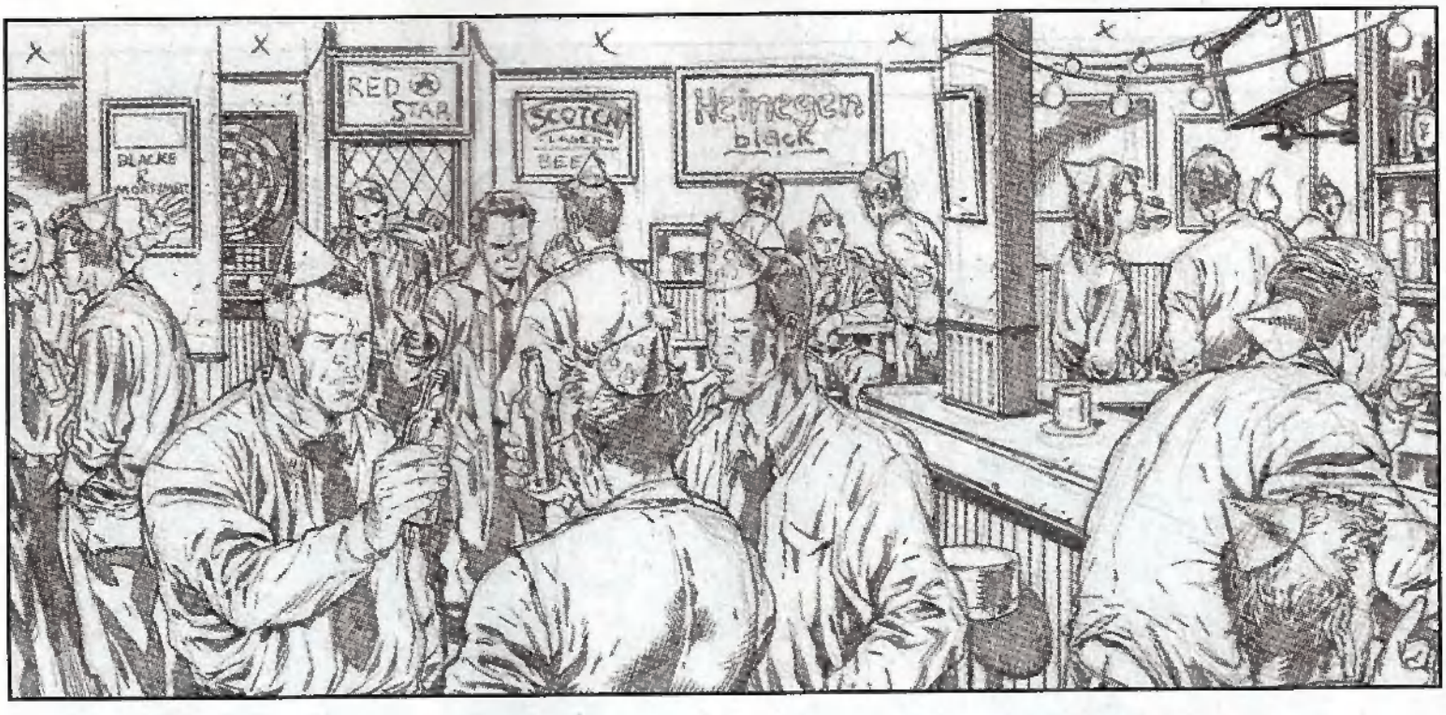
FOR SO LONG, THESE MASKED MARVELS HAVE SAVED LIVES AND FOUGHT OFF VILLAINOUS THREATS. BUT NOW, QUESTIONS ARE BEING ASKED. SOME DEMAND TO KNOW WHO THEY ARE. WHAT GIVES THEM THE RIGHT — THE AUTHORITY — THEY SEEM TO POSSESS. ANOTHER SIDE BELIEVES THEY MUST BE ALLOWED THEIR ANONYMITY. TO REVEAL THEMSELVES WILL ONLY CAUSE GREATER DAMAGE, AND GIVE THOSE THAT OPPOSE THEM A CLEAR TARGET.

SPLIT BY A CHOICE BETWEEN PERSONAL SAFETY AND LIBERTIES VERSUS NATIONAL SECURITY AND LAW, FRIENDS MUST NOW PICK A SIDE, HUNTING DOWN THOSE THEY ONCE FOUGHT BESIDE. THOSE THAT STOOD TOGETHER AGAINST THREATS AS TEAMMATES NOW FACE EACH OTHER ON A BATTLEFIELD, AND NOT ALL WILL WALK AWAY UNSCATHED. THIS IS WAR. CALLOUS ACTIONS WILL TEAR FAMILIES AND FRIENDSHIPS APART. LOVED ONES WILL BE PUT AT RISK. TRUE VILLAINS WILL GO UNCHECKED.

HOW MANY WILL FALL BEFORE THIS IS SETTLED? HOW FAR WILL EACH SIDE GO BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE? WHO WILL BETRAY THOSE THAT TRUSTED THEM? WHO CAN STOP THIS RAGING CIVIL WAR?

IN CIVIL WAR, THERE ARE TWO SIDES, TWO POINTS OF VIEW, AND MANY STORIES THAT NEED REPORTING. THERE ARE TWO JOURNALISTS WILLING TO GET TO THE HEART OF IT, PLACING THEMSELVES WHERE THE GREATEST DANGER OF ALL LIES!

CIVIL WAR: FRONT LINE.



SALLY FLOYD AND BEN URICH HAVE EMBEDDED THEMSELVES, EACH IN ONE OF THE OPPOSING CAMPS, AND THE STORIES THEY DISCOVER WILL CHANGE THE WAY THE WORLD SEES HEROES... AND VILLAINS!

IN THE WAKE OF THE TRAGEDY, HEROES MUST MAKE A CHOICE, AND THEIR CHOICES HAVE CONSEQUENCES. NO ONE KNOWS THIS MORE THAN PETER PARKER. TORN BY HIS OWN CIVIL WAR, WATCH AS HE STRUGGLES WITH THE POWER HE NOW HAS, AND THE RESPONSIBLE DECISION HE KNOWS HE MUST MAKE. BEGINNING IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #532, WATCH THE LIVES OF PETER PARKER, AND EVERYONE WHO KNOWS HIM BE CHANGED IN WAYS NONE OF THEM CAN PREPARE FOR!

DESPITE THE MEDIA, DESPITE THE LEGISLATION, DESPITE THE EVIDENCE, WOLVERINE KNOWS THERE IS ONE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR SETTING OFF THE CHAIN OF EVENTS THAT HAVE LED TO THIS CIVIL WAR. NOW, HE IS DETERMINED THAT THESE CRIMES WILL NOT GO UNPUNISHED. TRACKING DOWN THE VILLAIN RESPONSIBLE, HOWEVER, MAY NOT BE AS EASY AS HE THINKS. THERE IS ANOTHER WHO GRIEVES, WHO WANTS TO FIND THE MAN WHO KILLED SO MANY -- INCLUDING ONE WHOM HE LOVED -- AND WILL NOT LET ANYTHING, NOT EVEN WOLVERINE, GET IN THE WAY OF HIS REVENGE! WOLVERINE #42 BEGINS THE HUNT, BEGINS THE "VENDETTA!"

THE ROAD TO CIVIL WAR

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AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #529

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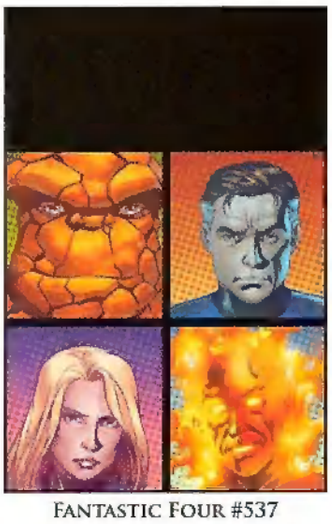

FANTASTIC FOUR #537

CIVIL WAR: FRONT LINE #1

CIVIL WAR #1
(VARIANT COVER)